India's deliberations at World Economic Forum, Davos

792. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which deliberations took place with Indian delegation at the recently concluded World Economic Forum in Davos;

(b) the details of such deliberations; and

(c) the details of advantages accruing to India due to participation in the forum this year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos are not country specific. The Indian delegation participated in several meetings covering the subjects relating to Trade & Investment, Science & Technology, Education, Health, Tsunami, Corporate Social Responsibility etc. Bilateral meetings were also held with the European Union, UK, USA, Germany, Netherlands, Canada, Chile, Brazil, Korea, South Africa, Indonesia, Switzerland, Singapore and Malaysia among others in the wings of the World Economic Forum interactions.

(c) In these meetings and interactions there was clear appreciation of our economic reform measures as well as our institutional strengths and good economic indicators. Indian delegation informed about the favourable investment climate in the country which was appreciated by the participants in the various meetings.

R&D in defence sector

†793. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps Government propose to take to start/speed up development and research in defence sector; and

(b) the project-wise details of investment Government propose to make in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government is taking following major steps to speed up Research and Development work in defence sector:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.